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7 October 1953

Memorandum for the Director of Security

Attention Security Control Staff, [REDACTED]

10501 BOLA
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Subject: Distribution Abroad of the National Intelligence Digest

1. I briefly discussed this matter on the telephone with Mr. [REDACTED] and he suggested I direct my inquiry to you.

2. You are doubtless familiar with the nature of the National Intelligence Digest, but in case you are not there follows a short description. It is a document with the over-all classification of Top Secret. It contains estimates and current intelligence on all areas of the world; it is organized in the same manner as the NSC handbook containing US national security policies. Wherever possible the estimative sections are based on current National Intelligence Estimates or Special Estimates. There is no other publication in the intelligence field which contains such a diversity of highly sensitive intelligence. Many sections are classified only Secret, but because the Digest is a compilation, its sensitivity is greater than that of an individual Top Secret document or National Intelligence Estimate.

3. At the present time it has been distributed on a strict "need to know" basis to senior officials in those governmental departments concerned with national security. One copy was sent to the Senior Representative [REDACTED]

4. Recently DD/P requested that we send them additional copies for distribution to Senior Representatives abroad as follows:

Mission

Digest Sections

I - World Situation
II - Soviet Bloc
V - Middle East and Africa
VI - Europe

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II - Soviet Bloc
VI - Europe

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MissionDigest Sections

- I - World Situation
- II - Soviet Bloc
- III - Far East
- IV - South Asia
- III-1 - Philippines
- III-F - Mainland Southeast Asia
- III-F - Mainland Southeast Asia
- III-F - Mainland Southeast Asia
- III-J - Indonesia
- II-C - European Satellites
- VI - Europe (less sections
E, F, and N through
V on countries not
closely related to

- I - World Situation
- II - Soviet Bloc
- V - Middle East and Africa
- VI - Europe

5. General Smith, when he was DOI, was extremely strict about the distribution of the Digest. Therefore the DD/I, while anxious to get it into the hands of as many people who can profitably use it as possible, is also concerned with the security aspect. Therefore, we would like to have an opinion from you as to whether or not it is advisable to make the distribution list in the preceding paragraph. These sections will be revised from time to time. It occurs to me that in the cases of [] the question arises not only as to the security of the building which houses the mission, but also the security of [] itself, for instance, in view of the unsettled condition []

[]
STAFF ASSISTANT, O/AS

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